

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF ARKANSAS  
CENTRAL DIVISION**

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

**V. No. 4:18-cr-00369-SWW-1**

**JOSEPH STAFFORD**

**ORDER**

On June 25, 2019, Defendant pleaded guilty to being a felon in possession of a firearm, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 922(g)(1) (*Doc. 29*), and the Court sentenced him to serve fifty-seven months' imprisonment. *Doc. 43*. Now before the Court is Defendant's motion for compassionate release. *Doc. 45*. Although the First Step Act made the procedural hurdles for compassionate release a bit less strenuous, a defendant still must establish "extraordinary and compelling reasons" and that release would not be contrary to the 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a) factors.<sup>1</sup> After careful review, the Court finds that Defendant has failed to make the required showing, and his motion (*Doc. 45*) is therefore DENIED.

Dated this 1st day of July, 2022.

/s/Susan Webber Wright  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

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<sup>1</sup>18 U.S.C. § 3553(a)(2) mandates that any sentence imposed reflect the seriousness of the offense, afford adequate deterrence, protect the public, and provide the defendant with appropriate rehabilitation.